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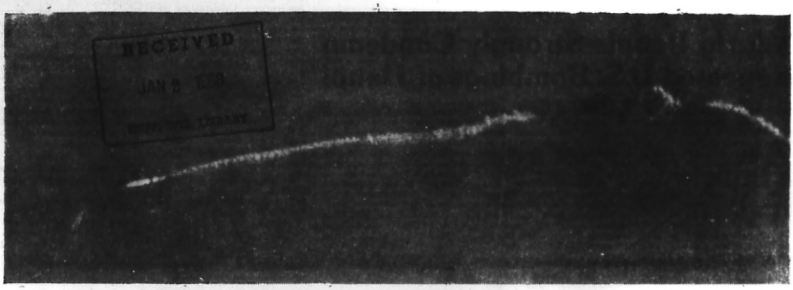
2,500 U.S. PLANES DOWNED OVER NORTH VIET NAM



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HANOI GROUNDED THE 2,500th PLANE ON NOVEMBER 6, 1967

(PAGES 4-5)

Above : The 2,500th U.S. plane downed over Hanoi
Below : The wreckage

★

Up to November 11, 1967

2,523 U.S. AIRCRAFT

WERE DOWNED OVER NORTH VIET NAM

SOUTH VIETNAM

BIG VICTORIES OF THE PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMED FORCES AT LOC NINH (THU DAU MOT) FROM OCTOBER 29 TO NOVEMBER 2:

- **2,800 Enemy Soldiers Put out of Action**
- **40 Tanks and Armoured Cars and 30 Cannons Destroyed**
- **8 Aircraft Downed**

(PAGE 7)

GRAND MEETING IN COMMEMORATION OF THE OCTOBER REVOLUTION 50th ANNIVERSARY

Presidium of the ceremony

ON November 4, 1967, a grand meeting was held in Hanoi, capital of the D.R.V.N. to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Great October Revolution.

In the Presidium were Ton Duc Thang, Vice-President of the D.R.V.N., member of the C.C. of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, Chairman of the C.C. of the Viet Nam Fatherland Front, President of the Viet Nam-U.S.S.R. Friendship Association, Chairman of the Committee of Organization of the 50th Anniversary Celebrations of the October Revolution; Truong Chinh, member of the Political Bureau of the C.C. of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, Chairman of the Standing Committee of the D.R.V.N. National Assembly; Pham Van Dong, Premier of the D.R.V.N. Government, member of the Political Bureau of the C.C. of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, and many other Party and State leaders.

In the presidium were also Nguyen Van Tien, head of the permanent mission of the South Viet Nam N.F.L. in North Viet Nam; I.S. Serbakov, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the U.S.S.R. to the D.R.V.N.; V. Lomonosov, member of the C.C. of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, member of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R., Second Secretary of the C.C. of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan, head of the visiting delegation of the U.S.S.R.-Viet Nam Friendship Association.

After the opening speech by Vice-President Ton Duc Thang, Truong Chinh addressed the rally. He extolled the great achievements and international significance of the October Revolution. He laid stress on the characteristics of the trail blazed by the October Revolution, that of uninterrupted revolution, of thorough revolution and of revolutionary violence. He also pointed out that the Vietnamese Revolution was part of the world revolution, the continuation in Viet Nam of the great cause of the October Revolution.

A thunderous ovation rose when Truong Chinh said:

"The contribution of the Soviet Union to the revolutionary cause of the Vietnamese people is tremendous. The Vietnamese people will feel for it an undying gratitude."

THE WORLD SUPPORTS US

World People Strongly Condemn Repeated U.S. Bombings of Hanoi

THE November 11 statement by the **Government of the People's Republic of China** stressed: "The government and people of China strongly condemn the barbarous crimes committed by the U.S. imperialists who have been repeatedly bombing Hanoi, capital of the D.R.V.N. They warmly hail the brilliant successes recorded by the armed forces and people of Hanoi when fighting off the U.S. aggressors.

"They voice their staunchest support to the October 30 statement of the Government of the D.R.V.N. which expressed the firm confidence in the victory of the heroic Vietnamese people and their unshakable determination to carry on their struggle against the U.S. aggressors for national salvation, until final victory."

ON Oct. 2, the paper **Pravda** (USSR) commented: "Once again, U.S. imperialism brazenly and impudently violated the elementary provisions of international law, treading upon human dignity and humanism. It was a criminal 'escalation' of the dirty war...

"Washington's adventurist policy showed the recklessness and embarrassment of the U.S. militarist and ruling cliques."

ON November 2, the **Bulgarian Government** stated: "The bombings of Hanoi and Hai Phong once again testify to the intention of the U.S.A. to further 'escalate' the war in Viet Nam. They also lay bare the hypocrisy of U.S. government's declarations about negotiation and peaceful settlement of the Viet Nam problem. Such actions challenge the peace-loving people in the world who are protesting against the Viet Nam war..."

ON November 2, Alfred Neumann, **acting Premier of the G.D.R.**, stated: "In dangerously stepping up their barbarous aggression on Viet Nam, the U.S. imperialists cynically reject the ever stronger demand of peace-loving and progressive mankind that they should immediately put an end to their aggression."

THE **P.D.R. of Korea Foreign Ministry** stated: "Such barbarous air raids were carried out while the large-scale campaign against the U.S. aggressive war in Viet Nam was surging all over the world. They were not only an extremely serious crime against the Vietnamese people but also a cynical challenge to all socialist countries and to the peace-loving people in the world."

THE November 4 statement of the **Albanian Foreign Ministry** said, "The people and government of the P.R. of Albania are highly indignant at those crimes perpetrated by the U.S. imperialists against the heroic and invincible Vietnamese people.

"The criminal bombings of Hanoi and its suburbs, the extension of the bombing of the D.R.V.N. and the continual pouring of G.I.'s into South Viet Nam are part and parcel of the U.S. strategy of escalation of the Viet Nam war."

THE Oct. 28 statement of the spokesman of the **Neo Lao Hakeat Central Committee** read: "The *Neo Lao Hakeat* Central Committee voices its full support to the Oct. 25 statement of the D.R.V.N. It strongly insists that the U.S. aggressors should immediately put an end to the bombing of Hanoi and unconditionally stop air raids and other acts of war against the D.R.V.N., withdraw all U.S. and satellite troops from South Viet Nam and let the Vietnamese people settle their own affairs."

IN its November 3 statement, the Political Bureau of the **French Communist Party** condemned the repeated U.S. bombings of Hanoi and appealed to the peace-loving French people to intensify their activities under every form to demand that the U.S. government should put an end to this shameful war and in the first place, unconditionally stop bombing the D.R.V.N.

THE Oct. 31 statement of the **Organization for the Solidarity of Asian and African peoples** pointed out: "The new escalation of the U.S. imperialists laid bare before world opinion and the Asian and African peoples' opinion Johnson's bellicose nature and 'peace negotiation' swindle. We demand that the U.S. imperialists immediately and unconditionally put an end to all bombings of the D.R.V.N. and to all other acts of war against the D.R.V.N., withdraw U.S. troops from South Viet Nam, recognize the South Viet Nam N.F.L. as the the sole authentic representative of the South Vietnamese people and let the South Vietnamese people settle their own affairs."

VIET NAM JUBILANTLY CELEBRATES THE 50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE OCTOBER REVOLUTION

THE **Party, National Assembly and Government delegation** of the D.R.V.N. led by Le Duan, First Secretary of the C.C. of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, arrives in Moscow to attend the celebrations of the 50th anniversary of the Great October Revolution at the invitation of the C.C. of the C.P.S.U., the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R.

THE **delegations of the U.S.S.R.-Viet Nam Friendship Association** led by V. Lomonosov, member of the C.C. of the C.P.S.U., member of the U.S.S.R. Supreme Soviet, Second Secretary of the C.C. of the Uzbekistani Communist Party and Vice-President of the U.S.S.R.-Viet Nam Friendship Association; of the **Central Council of Soviet Trade Unions** led by G.P. Sofonov, member of the Presidium of the Council, of the **Soviet women** led by Olga Chechatkina, Vice-President of the Soviet Women's Committee; and of the **Lenin Communist Youth League** led by B. N. Pastukhov, Secretary of the C.C. of the League, have arrived in Hanoi to visit the D.R.V.N. and attend the celebrations of the 50th anniversary of the October Revolution in Viet Nam.

ON Nov. 2, 1967, Nguyen Huu Tho, President of the Presidium of the C.C. of the South Viet Nam N.F.L. sent a message of greeting to L.I. Brezhnev, Secretary General of the C.C. of the C.P.S.U., N.V. Podgorny, President of the **Presidium of the U.S.S.R. Supreme Soviet**, and **A.N. Kosygin, Chairman of the Council of Ministers** of the U.S.S.R., on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the **October Revolution**.

EXHIBITION of pictures of fifty years' achievements following the October Revolution organized by the General Department of Information, the Commission for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries and the Viet Nam-U.S.S.R. Friendship Association has opened in Hanoi.

THE Hanoi Engineering Plant, which has sworn brotherhood with the Moscow Red Proletariat Plant, has held a grand meeting to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the October Revolution.

THE Foreign Languages Publishing House in Hanoi has published and circulated the book *Forward, under the Glorious Banner of the October Revolution* by Le Duan, First Secretary of the C.C. of the Viet Nam Workers' Party.

TRAN HUU DUC, member of the C.C. of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, Minister of the Premier's Office gives a grand banquet to Soviet experts now working in Viet Nam.

ON November 7, 1967, all Hanoi papers carried editorials, commentaries, poems, reportages, memoirs etc... in praise of the triumph of the Great October Revolution and the profound friendship between the Vietnamese and Soviet people, along with the portrait of the great Lenin.

HANOI capital presents the people of Moscow — with which it has established sworn brotherhood — the wreckage of the 2,500th U.S. plane downed on Nov. 6, 1967 by the local armed forces and people in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the October Revolution.

VIET NAM COURIER

MESSAGE GREETING THE OCTOBER REVOLUTION

To Comrade L.I. BREZHNEV, Secretary General of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union;

Comrade N.V. PODGORNY, President of the Presidium of the U.S.S.R. Supreme Soviet;

Comrade A.N. KOSYGIN, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R.

Moscow

Dear Comrades,

ON the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, on behalf of the Vietnamese working class and people, the Viet Nam Workers' Party, the National Assembly and Government of the D.R.V.N., we send our warmest greetings to the Soviet people, the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the Supreme Soviet and the Government of the U.S.S.R.

Exactly half a century ago, under the talented leadership of the glorious Bolshevik Party led by the great Lenin, the Russian working class and labouring people successfully conducted the socialist revolution, founded the first proletarian State in the world, ushering in a new era of human history, the era of the collapse of capitalism and the triumph of socialism, the era of the liberation of oppressed nations. The October Revolution has opened the way for the working class, labouring people and oppressed nations all over the world to march forward and struggle for self-liberation from all class and national oppression.

During the past 50 years, with their valiant revolutionary tradition and creativeness in labour, the Soviet people have recorded tremendous successes.

Right after the Soviet power had been set up the Soviet people already overcame countless difficulties and hardships, foiled the attacks by 14 imperialist countries and, at the same time, smashed the opposition from counter-revolutionaries in the country, thus safeguarding the fruits of the October Revolution.

Later on, the Soviet people upheld the spirit of self-reliance, endeavoured to carry out socialist industrialization and agricultural collectivization and conducted cultural revolution, successfully building socialism on one-sixth of the globe while actively supporting and assisting the world revolutionary movement.

In World War II, the heroic army and people of the Soviet Union, under the leadership of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, waged the Great Patriotic War and defeated fascism, defending the socialist fatherland and saving mankind from fascist danger. The glorious victory of the Soviet people created conditions extremely favourable for the world people's revolutionary movement to develop and win big successes. The victory of the Chinese revolution dealt a singing blow at the imperialist system, thus definitively tipping the balance of forces in the world in avour of socialism. The socialist camp which has taken shape from Europe to Asia and Latin America and consolidated with every passing day, is becoming the decisive factor for the development of human society. This is the greatest achievement of the international communist and workers' movement after the Russian October Revolution. Many oppressed nations have successively regained national independence in different degrees, and the colonial system of imperialism has quickly disintegrated.

In the post-war years, the Soviet people rapidly rehabilitated their economy and continued developing economy and culture, strengthening national defence, recording great achievements in all fields, successfully achieving socialist construction and beginning to build the material and technical basis of communism.

Today, the Soviet Union has become a powerful socialist country having a highly developed economy, and an advanced science and technology. The splendid achievements of the Soviet people, particularly the wonderful achievements recorded in space conquest, have actively contributed to the strengthening of the forces of the socialist camp and the defence of world peace, glorifying the superiority of socialism and the Soviet people, and strongly stimulating other peoples throughout the world. The Vietnamese people greatly rejoice at these big successes of the fraternal Soviet people and consider them as their own.

Illuminated and encouraged by the Great October Revolution, the Vietnamese working class and people, under the leadership of their Marxist-Leninist Party, successfully carried out the August (1945) Revolution, founded the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, victoriously waged the resistance war against the French colonialist aggressors, started building socialism in half of their country and are now successfully conducting a war of resistance against U.S. aggression, for national salvation. The Vietnamese people will be for ever grateful to the October Revolution and the great Lenin.

The peoples of Viet Nam and the Soviet Union have long been closely bound together by a warm fraternal friendship. This friendship has ceaselessly been consolidated and developing in our common struggle for peace, national independence, democracy and socialism. The Vietnamese people profoundly cherish solidarity and friendship with the Soviet people and have unremittingly been endeavouring to tighten the Viet Nam-Soviet solidarity and friendship on the basis of Marxism Leninism and proletarian internationalism.

In the process of their protracted and difficult struggle in the past as well as in the present resistance war against U.S. aggression, to save their Fatherland, defend the North, liberate the South and achieve peaceful national reunification, the Vietnamese people have constantly received wholehearted support and assistance from the Soviet people. We take this opportunity to express our heartfelt thanks to the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the U.S.S.R. Supreme Soviet, the Government and people of the Soviet Union for that great and valuable support and assistance.

May the Soviet people, under the leadership of the C.P.S.U., continue to win many and still greater successes in the building of the material and technical basis of communism and in the defence of world peace!

May the militant solidarity and relations of friendship and fraternal co-operation between the Vietnamese and Soviet peoples last for ever!

Hanoi, November 6, 1967

HO CHI MINH
President of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, President of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam.

TRUONG CHINH
Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National Assembly of the D.R.V.N.

PHAM VAN DONG
Premier of the D.R.V.N. Government

ON this occasion, Nguyen Duy Trinh, Foreign Minister of the D.R.V.N., has also sent a message of greeting to A.A. Gromyko, Foreign Minister of the Soviet Union.

CAMBODIAN NATIONAL DAY WARMLY WELCOMED

IN the seething movement of struggle of the Indo-Chinese peoples against U.S. imperialist aggression, we enthusiastically welcome the 14th National Day of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

In their struggle against the U.S., fornational salvation and the defence of their sacred national rights, the Vietnamese people are proud to have as comrades-in-arms the neighbouring Khmer people to fight the common enemy — the U.S. imperialist aggressor.

Over the past few years, the American imperialists and their lackeys in Saigon and Bangkok, together with the Serei Khmer rebels, have left oo stone unturned to odiously nppose the policy of peace and neutrality of the Kingdom of Cambodia. However, under the clearsighted leadership of Head of State Norodom Sihanouk, the brother Cambodian people have put up a stout resistance and foiled all schemes of the enemy.

With the same mettle as in the struggle to defend their independence and sovereignty, the Cambodian government and people have done their best to build up their country and have recorded important successes.

Despite the threat and sabotage by U.S. imperialism, the Cambodian people continue to embark on the road of independence, peace and neutrality. The Americans and their stooges have launched many provocative attacks on Cambodian territory. Of late, they impudently unveiled their scheme to bring the war to Cambodia, threaten and bully her in order to compel her to give up her peace and neutrality policy.

But more than ever, the Cambodian government and people in their resolve to defend their sacred national rights, have repelled these provocative attacks and foiled all acts of sabotage and exposed before world opinion the odious plots of the American imperialists and their myrmidons.

The Vietnamese people are highly elated at the successes achieved by the brother Cambodian people and warmly congratulate them for their courage. Having a common enemy, American imperialism, and the same aspirations — independence and freedom — the government and people of the D.R.V.N. wholeheartedly support the just position of the Kingdom of Cambodia in her struggle against the U.S. imperialist aggressors and energetically demand that the U.S. put an end to all its criminal acts against the Cambodian people.

In their just struggle, the people and government of the D.R.V.N. have constantly received the entire approval and support of the Cambodian government and people led by Head of State Norodom Sihanouk. The Cambodian government has always energetically condemned the barbrous war of aggression of the U.S. imperialists, demanded that the latter stop unconditionally the bombing of North Viet Nam and withdraw their troops and those of their satellites from South Viet Nam, and exposed the "peace negotiation" hoax and foolish attitude of the U.S. imperialists. Head of State Norodom Sihanouk has many times voiced full support for the 4 points of the D.R.V.N. and 5 points of the South Viet Nam N.F.L., regarding them as the most correct and just stands to settle the Viet Nam problem. Head of State Norodom Sihanouk and the Cambodian government have recognized at an early date the South Viet Nam National

(Continued page 7)

MESSAGE OF CONGRATULATIONS ON THE OCCASION OF THE NATIONAL DAY OF THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA

To Samdech NORODOM SIHANOUK, Head of State and Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Kingdom of Cambodia
Phnom Penh

ON the occasion of the National Day of the Kingdom of Cambodia, on behalf of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Vietnamese people and in our own names, we wish to convey to Samdech, the Royal Government of Cambodia and the brother Cambodian people our warmest and most cordial congratulations.

We joyfully welcome the great successes recorded by the Cambodian people under Samdech's clearsighted leadership in the safeguarding of the inviolable rights of Cambodia—independence, sovereignty, neutrality and territorial integrity—in the building in multiple aspects of a prosperous Cambodia. The Cambodian people, a friend and brother in arms of the Vietnamese people, will certainly win new successes.

We reaffirm the Vietnamese people's determination to stand always beside the Cambodian people in their struggle against the U.S. imperialists for the defence of their sacred national rights.

On this occasion, we wish to renew our sincere thanks to Samdech, the Royal Government and the brother Cambodian people for their valuable support to the Vietnamese people's struggle against U.S. aggression, for national salvation.

While rejoicing at the splendid development of the relations between our two countries, we firmly believe that the constant consolidation and development of the fraternal friendship and militant solidarity between our two peoples constitute an important contribution to the struggle of all peoples in this area of the world against all the imperialists, especially the U.S. imperialists, for the defence of national independence and peace.

With the assurances of our highest consideration.

Hanoi, November 8, 1967.

HO CHI MINH
President of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam

PHAM VAN DONG
Premier of the D.R.V.N. Government

ON this occasion, Truong Chinh, Chairman of the Standing Committee of the D.R.V.N. National Assembly, and Nguyen Duy Trinh, D.R.V.N. Foreign Minister, have also sent messages of congratulations respectively to Chaussen Cocsal, Speaker of the Cambodian National Assembly, and Norodom Phurissara, Cambodian Foreign Minister.

2,500 U.S. PLANES DOWNED OVER NORTH VIET NAM

How the 2,500th U.S. Plane Was Downed

NOV. 6, 1967.

Observation man, Thuy, reported to the Company commander, "Distance 6,000, 5,500, 5,000..."

His report on the distance of the enemy aircraft was heard distinctly and soundly in the serene atmosphere prevailing over the gun emplacements defending the capital. The Company commander and the political instructor closely watched the flights of enemy aircraft. All gun barrels wheeled silently in the direction of the chosen targets.

"Fire!" the company commander gave the order. Almost simultaneously, the batteries spat fire skywards. Several flights of F.105's screamed in, split up into pairs and swooped down, but met with the lethal curtains of ground fire, they were forced to leave their formations to dodge. All enemy combat runs were broken.

At a surface-to-air missile site, the combatants could hear the instructions very distinctly from Political Instructor Paam Ngoc Bai: "The enemy tries to catch up unawares. Let's administer him most well-deserved surprise blows."

Just a few days ago, members of this missile unit pledged themselves to achieve new exploits in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Great Russian October Revolution. Now the political instructor's words came as a booster, making them even more eager to carry out the command.

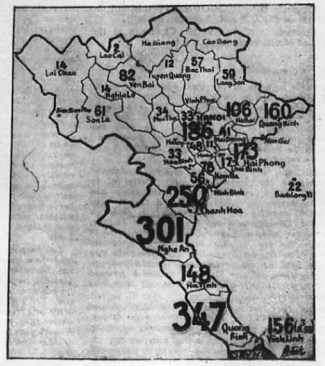
Guiding officer Nguyen Quang Hung told the observation men, "Hold on to the plane flying in the middle!", "Take to the most visible!" A flight of enemy aircraft came within firing range but was still moving at low speed. Hung turned towards the commanding officer and suggested, "Let them get in deeper and we'll make a sure hit!"

7.55 hours. In the northern air space of the capital, ack-ack fire flashed in a thick network. Two F. 105's were hit and plummeted to the ground. Meanwhile, the targets on the radar screen of the missile unit put on speed and swooped over an area of the capital. These air intruders were attempting a combined action to thin out our fire and avoid risks. One of them was about to split up for a strike. Hung immediately shouted, "Fire!"

Boom! The missile left its ramp and came up. An orange smoke ball appeared in the sky and from it, an incandescent pole came out. Now and then it blazed with great intensity and finally burst into a fireball which drifted for a long while in the northern sky of the capital. This was the 3rd enemy plane felled in the day, and also the 2,500th downed over North Viet Nam.

From this aircraft, a U.S. pilot bailed out. His parachute did not deploy. He plunged to earth. A coincidence: He flopped smack in the area where on Sept. 20 this year, other U.S. planes had dropped 11 CBU's, killing a dozen children and old folks.

Militiamen of village L. loaded the wreckages of this plane in 10 carts, leaving its turbine in the flooded rice-fields. Soon afterwards, a hunk of this F.105 was sent to Moscow as a souvenir to the Soviet people, in the way the Hanoi armed forces and people celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Great October Revolution.



Figures of American plane downed in North Viet Nam

FROM 2,000 TO 2,500 A RECORD: 500 U.S. PLANES DOWNED IN 5 MONTHS

NORTH Viet Nam A.A. defence brought down the 2.000 th plane on June 5, 1967 and the 2,500th on November 6, 1967. Thus in five months:

— The tempo of American losses was the quickest ever since the beginning of the U.S. air war of destruction in the North;

— The number of enemy planes downed on the spot as well as that of American pilots captured were the largest;

— The Yankees suffered particularly heavy losses per day: 39 days saw the downing of 5-9 planes each day, and 9 days more than 10 planes. The record was set on August 12 with 13 planes downed.

— The aggressors experienced many hard periods, losing:

46 planes from July 1 to 15
50 planes from August 1 to 14
66 planes from August 17 to 31
40 planes from September 1 to 11
42 planes from October 1 to 9, and
66 planes from October 22 to 31

— The most victorious months for our defence:

August : 116 planes downed.
October : 130 planes downed.

— New types and models were found among the American planes downed:

B.52 Stratofortress bombers. the biggest of the U.S.A.F. in Vinh Linh (2 on September 17 and one on October 30, 1967).

F.4D *Phantom*, in Ha Bac on August 23.

— Our coastal defence damaged 27 times war vessels of the U.S. Seventh Fleet, the Australian Royal Navy and the puppet Navy, including cruisers and destroyers.

LETTER FROM VINH LINH

Life Is Going On Despite B.52 Raids

VINH LINH, the northernmost district of Quang Tri province, is a narrow strip of land in North Viet Nam close to the 17th parallel. The outermost post of the country, it has been the fat target of U.S. air and naval raids and artillery shellings. It is one of the regions many times bombed by big B.52 strategic bombers. But the correspondent of the daily *Nhan Dan* wrote from there:

IN mid-September last, at a festival held on the occasion of the downing of the first two B.52s by our A.A. defence, one of the fighters of the victor unit told me:

"It's a pity! On that day the sky was rather cloudy and the local population could not see with their naked eyes the two giant planes downed. We told them to wait for a better chance to see us punish them."

Over one month passed by. One bright morning at the end of October, our compatriots on both banks of the Ben Hai river separating North and South Viet Nam, had the pleasure to see our batteries rend the air and hit in the shy one of the three B.52s coming to sow death and devastation. Near me, old Tue, who had seen his legitimate wrath wrought on the enemy, hemmed and hawed with emotion and a broad smile on his wrinkled face: What a well deserved punishment! I shouted immediately after the shot had been fired, "The enemy will pay for his crimes". And the air marauder was but a ball of flame much bigger than the fire caused to my house by American bombs and shells.

I came to the village 4 hours after it had been raided by 18 B.52s. The village Party cell was meeting. Measures had been taken to make life going on normally. The co-op shop was re-opened. A twelve-year-old girl, merry in her spick-and-span jacket, said to me, "My mother and I were buried in our shelter during an air bombing. Our militiamen and women came and unearthed us in time. Luckily for me, my satchel and books were intact."

In T. village, 32 times struck by B.52s, I saw co-op farmers preparing seedlings for a new crop. I could attend a very interesting theatrical show in V. village. During the performance, an order came to requisition 8 militiamen for a dangerous combat mission. Most of the men left the room to have a chance to meet out punishment to the Yankees. Drawing lots were resorted to: lucky people set out satisfied, while the others were disappointed.

5 kilometres to the South, U.S. Marines hid more deeply in their muddy dug-outs at Con Tien and Doc Mieu, and did not dare come out to pick up the corpses of their mates killed about thirty metres from their fortification; they would prefer to let them rot in the sun and the southwest monsoon waft their offensive smell up to our place. Really, these aggressors, dead or alive, infect our soil!

As soon as the loud speaker finished announcing that the third B.52 had been grounded by Vinh Linh air defence, when deafening explosions were heard from the South. Old Tue laid down his bowl of rice and said to mother Tri, "Do you hear the noise?"

"Why not!" said the old woman. "It is the gun report of our southern compatriots to celebrate our victory!"

NGUYEN SINH
Adapted by X.B.

☆

Photo: An A.A. unit in Vinh Linh

FIGHTING HANOI

DESTROYER OF DELAYED-ACTION BOMBS

IN their strikes at Hanoi, the U.S. air intruders have used not only blockbusters, steel-pellet bombs and rockets, but also delayed-action steel-pellet and explosive bombs. On a roadside and a dyke embankment at a surburban village of Hanoi, 5 delayed-action bombs still remain. A 10-man demolition squad is immediately dispatched to the scene.

Nguyen Van Thuong, an engineering combatant who has so far demolished over 100 U.S. bombs of different types, volunteers to go first. Singlehandedly, he probes the depth and the position of the bomb location. His 9 mates and the local inhabitants thrillingly follow his movement.

A few minutes later, Thuong shouts joyfully, "Here it's!" Everybody sighs with relief. The earth here is sandy and so can slide down at any moment. The job is to be done by a single man to get first experience. Thuong again volunteers and is selected to do it. With patience, he removes the earth bit by bit. The more he goes down, the more he encounters difficulties. He perspires all over, but keeps digging, always with great care and clear-cut movements. Soon he comes up to surface and reports:

"Everything is ready."

The explosive has been charged. A deafening explosion is heard. The whole demolition squad looks anxious, wondering why there is no bomb blast. The bomb has been shocked. It is very dangerous to move closer. Thuong places a new explosive charge. This time both the satchel charge and the U.S. bomb burst with a thundering explosion.

The first step which is the most difficult is over. The remaining 4 U.S. bombs are soon demolished.

VALIANT WORKERS

NGUYEN NGOC CON does not know that the air-raid Red has been signalled until he hears the roaring of anti-aircraft batteries. Hardly has he reached the shelter when a bomb explosion lifts him up. Knowing that the factory has come under enemy attack, he staggers into the engine room for a check together with Nghi and Xung.

At the other end of the room, Nguyen Thanh Vinh almost loses his breath by another bomb explosion and feels some irritation in the throat. Together with Tho, he gropes his way through the smoke and dust to check the whole machine row, a work usually handled by 5 or 6 persons.

The battle over, technical workers and members of shock teams are all present at key positions. The cover of an engine cracks. Repair work is done round the clock for 3 days on end. Factory X. operates again.

DEVOTED WAITRESSES

THE rice has been done. The soup prepared by Uncle Cach is also ready to serve. Uncle Binh's meat fried with potatoes smells very nice. Waitresses Phuong, Hao and Duoc, neatly dressed, are there, ready to bring the meals to various public offices.

The air-raid Red is signalled. Everybody quickly runs to shelters. Flaks open up intensively; explosions of steel-pellet and demolition bombs are heard.

The all-clear is sounded. Everybody comes out of shelter. The kitchen and the backyard are strewn with earth and stone. The soup has run out as its container has been perforated by steel-pellet bombs. The rice and the meals are spoiled by bomb smoke and dust.

Without hesitation, the whole personnel sets to prepare new meals. Moments later, the rice has been cooked and the meals again emanate a nice smell. When the engineering team removes the last steel-pellet bomb from this area, our waitresses are about to bring the meals to various offices as usual.

NORTH Vietnam

Up to Nov. 11, 1967

2,523

U.S. PLANES DOWNED

15 AMERICAN PILOTS AMONG THOSE RECENTLY CAPTURED IN NORTH VIET NAM

Above, left to right:

1. Hugh Allen Stafford, *U.S. Navy Lieutenant-Commander of South Carolina, service number 414922, captured on August 31, 1967 in Hai Phong.*

2. Gerald Santo, *U.S.A.F. First-Lieutenant, New Jersey, service number F.V. 3173807, captured on September 17, 1967 in Hanoi.*

3. Peter R. Schoeffel, *U.S. Navy Lieutenant-Commander, Washington, service number 584717, captured on October 4, 1967 in Hai Phong.*

4. David Paul Matheny, *U.S. Navy ensign, California, service number 710099, captured on October 5, 1967 in Ninh Binh province.*

5. Anthony Charles Andrews, *U.S.A.F. captain, California, service number F.R. 3146561, captured on October 17, 1967 in Ha Bac province.*

6. Earl Gardner Lewis, *U.S. Navy lieutenant, junior grade, Pennsylvania, service number 683095, captured on October 24, 1967 in Hanoi.*

7. Richard Eugene Smith, *U.S.A.F. major, Mississippi, service number F.R. 57992, captured on October 25, 1967 in Hanoi.*

Below, left to right:

8. Robert Franchot Frishman, *U.S. Navy lieutenant, junior grade, California, service number 642530, captured on October 25, 1967 in Hanoi.*

9. John Sidney Mac Cain, *U.S. Navy Lieutenant-Commander, Palama, service number 624787, captured on October 26, 1967 in Hanoi.*

10. Charles Donald Rice, *U.S. Navy lieutenant, junior grade, Georgia, service number 710266, captured on October 26, 1967 in Hanoi.*

11. John Peter Flynn, *U.S.A.F. colonel, Ohio, service number 15760.f, captured on October 27, 1967 in Hanoi.*

12. Robert Stirm, *U.S.A.F. major, San Francisco, service number F.V. 3036029, captured on October 27, 1967 in Hanoi.*

13. John Black, *U.S.A.F. captain, Tennessee, service number F.R. 55413, captured on October 27, 1967 in Hanoi.*

14. Russell Edwin Temperly *U.S.A.F. captain, Massachusetts, service number F.Q. 59025, captured on October 29, 1967 in Hanoi.*

15. Richard Allen Dutton, *U.S.A.F. major, Chicago, service number F.R. 22497, captured on November 5, 1967 in Vinh Phuc province.*

ANOTHER U.S. CRIME OF GENOCIDE

ON Nov. 2, 1967, at 1.05 p.m. many American aircraft bombed Tan Tien hamlet, Phu Xuan village, Thu Tri district, Thai Binh province, 80km southeast of Hanoi. 18 bombs were released on an area about 100 metres each side, destroying the whole of a hamlet of 41 households. Out of the hamlet's 255 inhabitants 51 were killed including 39 children, 6 old people and 2 pregnant women, and 31 were wounded including 8 children and 1 old person.

In Mr. Hoang Roan's family of 6 persons, the husband and 4 children aged from 1 to 10, were killed; Mme Nguyen Thi Xe had her mother-in-law and 2 children killed out of 5 persons in her family; the 10-member family of Mr Nguyen Du aged had 7 people killed including his mother and 6 children aged from 1 to 13; the family of Mr Nguyen Khoi of 6 members had 4 killed (his mother, his wife who was 8 months gone, and 2 children aged 1 and 4) and 2 wounded.

On Nov. 7, 1967, at a meeting with Vietnamese and foreign journalists in Hanoi, the Commission for Investigation of U.S. War Crimes in Viet Nam issued a communique denouncing this barbarous crime of genocide and called on the world opinion to timely stay the bloody hands of the men in Washington.

At this press conference, Gerard Chaliand, correspondent of the French paper Partisan *and Antonello Trombadori, correspondent of the Italian* Unita *who had made an on-the-spot investigation with Svero Oster, correspondent of a Swedish paper, expressed the following impressions on this raid:*

IT IS NOT AN ACCIDENT BUT AN ACT COMMITTED IN COLD BLOOD

"...IT should be pointed out that Thai Binh province, compared with the rest of the country is an area relatively less bombed, for targets regarded as strategic are very few there. In fact, it is an exclusively agricultural province and lies evenly flat and scarcely wooded land is not favourable to dispersion. Nevertheless, U.S. aircraft raided the province 233 times from 1965 to the end of 1966 and 491 times from January to the end of October 1967 according to the local authorities. Its provincial capital was virtually wiped out in 1966. The dykes, very important for the protection against flood, were attacked 43 times while one third of the bombings hit more or less the civilian population. The raid on Phong Man hamlet in 1966 killed 50 people and that on Thuy Dan elementary school in October 1966 30 schoolchildren. Dai Lai was not an isolated target and was not in the least an accidental but an intentional act. In fact, that hamlet located between two arms of a river and 1km from the provincial road and over 5km from the nearest bridge did not have any strategic target... We visited the hamlet early in the morning. the ashes were still smouldering. Men and women were clearing the ruins. American planes had dropped clusters of incendiary and explosive bombs...

"Is it necessary to tell what hatred of the Americans have stirred up in Dai Lai! Is it necessary to say that the people were not demoralized but their hatred has increased tenfold after this massacre and the bombing of dykes, bridges and buildings..."

GERARD CHALIAND
Editor of the paper *Partisan*

THIS IS AN ACT OF GENOCIDE

"...THERE is something specific and even novel in the war of aggression unleashed by the American imperialists against Viet Nam. Up to now, we have used such adjectives as savage, barbarous, criminal, piratic, bloody, fierce, to define these acts of war; but in my opinion, they are not adequate. For a more correct political and even scientific definition I think the word 'genocide' (genocide as an instrument of war) should be used...

"In the case of Tan Tien and many others, it is impossible to say that this is war... It reminds me of the principle of reprisals applied by the Nazis during World War II, who burnt down whole villages and killed hundreds of people at a time when a group of guerillas was found there. Here the entire people are guerillas and fighters and reprisals are taken against the whole country. It is sheer political blackmail to try to break the will of resistance of the Vietnamese people. The principle of genocide is carried out in proportion to the degree of the indomitable resistance of the Vietnamese people...

"The struggle of the latter against U.S. aggression is a sacred one for the defence of the independence, freedom, territorial integrity and sovereignty of their country, and also for the defence of some fundamentals of civilization. That is why most progressive and peace-loving people must wish for the triumph of the entire Vietnamese people over the American aggressors and are duty bound to fight for it. They must not only support but wage a mass political struggle in their respective countries to isolate the American aggressors and stay their criminal hands..."

ANTONELLO TROMBADORI
Correspondent of *Unita*

SOUTH Vietnam P.L.A.F. BIG SUCCESS AT LOC NINH, THU DAU MOT (Oct. 29 – Nov. 2):

☆ 2,800 Enemy Troops Put out of Action, 40 Tanks and Armoured Cars and 30 Cannons Destroyed, 8 Planes Downed.

ON the night of Oct. 28 to 29, *Giai Phong* Press Agency reported, the P.L.A.F. attacked Loc Ninh, 66 km north of Saigon, and controlled this township the one morning. They put out of action 2 companies and 4 platoons of "civil guards" at Loc Ninh and another company in a post 4 kilometres away. Thus, the enemy lost 550 men and 6 planes in one day.

On the afternoon of Oct. 29, relief troops were sent to Loc Ninh. On Oct. 30, at dawn, 1 U.S. company coming to Mang Trai west of the township suffered 80 casualties.

On the night of Oct. 30, a new P.L.A.F. attack on a U.S.-puppet task force (1,000 G.I.'s and 300 puppet troops) resulted in 1 U.S. infantry battalion, 1 U.S. artillery battalion and 1 U.S. armoured battalion put out of action, 1 puppet battalion heavily depleted, 12 heavy guns, over 40 tanks and armoured cars destroyed, a 6-gun battery at Mang Trai heavily damaged.

On Oct. 31 at noon, the enemy despatched 1 infantry battalion, cannons and armoured cars to Loc Ninh. On that very night, the P.L.A.F. artillery pounded the U.S.-puppet troops stationed on the airstrip, in the township and in the Rangers training camp, causing great losses to the enemy.

On the night of Nov. 1, the P.L.A.F. struck again at the U.S. garrison at Mang Trai, putting out of action 1 infantry battalion, 2 U.S. artillery companies, 600 men, and destroying 12 cannons.

Several battalions of puppet Rangers and 1 U.S. infantry battalion were sent to the rescue of Loc Ninh.

On the night of Nov. 2 to 3, in a surprise attack, the P.L.A.F. completely wiped out 1 U.S. company and a company of over 200 puppet Rangers.

The balance sheet of 6 days of attacks by the P.L.A.F. was as follows: 2,800 enemy troops including nearly 2,000 G.I.'s put out of action, 1 task force and many U.S. and puppet battalions (4 battalions, 8 companies, 4 platoons, 1 "pacification" team) wiped out, 1 battalion and 1 company of puppet Rangers badly mauled, 30 105-mm and 155-mm guns destroyed, 6 cannons heavily damaged, 8 planes downed, 40 tanks and armoured cars destroyed. The P.L.A.F. seized a great quantity of arms and munitions and other equipment.

BEN TRE

A Puppet Battalion Wiped Out

ON the night of Nov. 3, 1967 the P.L.A.F. wiped out Battalion 3, Regiment 10, puppet regular Division 7, 2 km north of Ben Tre town, *Giai Phong* Press Agency reported.

Meanwhile, the P.L.A.F. overran an enemy post and put out of action a platoon stationed in the same place.

MY THO — CHAU DOC

Enemy Bases and Communication Lines Attacked: 770 Soldiers Put out of Action

THE P.L.A.F. attacked 26 enemy positions in the Mekong Delta during 36 hours (from the night of Oct. 25 to the morning of Oct. 27). They particularly struck My Tho city (H.Q. of puppet Division 7), the U.S. base of Binh Duc (Infantry Division 9), the sector of An Huu and many posts along Highway 4, *Giai Phong* Press Agency reported.

According to incomplete figures, the P.L.A.F. put out of action 470 enemy troops (among them 100 G.I.'s), razed 10 posts and blockhouses, set afire 5 M.113 amphibious carriers, shot down 1 helicopter, demolished a dozen "strategic hamlets", and, helped by the local population, destroyed 600 metres of pavement, thus sealing off Highway 4 for many days.

On the night of Oct. 24, the P.L.A.F. wiped out 2 "pacification" teams, assaulted 2 military bases (Vinh Trung and Nui Dat) and other positions in the quarter of Nha Bang, in Chau Thanh and An Phu districts, Chau Doc province. In a single night, they killed, wounded or captured 300 enemy troops.

QUANG TRI

1 U.S. Company Put out of Action and 2 U.S. Companies Routed

THE P.L.A.F. on Oct. 26 fiercely intercepted Battalion 2 of U.S. Marine Regiment 1, leaving Doc Mieu for the northeast of Dong Khe, *Giai Phong* Press Agency said.

After an engagement lasting 3 hours, they wiped out 1 U.S. company, routed 2 other companies, shot down 7 planes and helicopters (1 F-4D jet plane, 5 helicopters, 1 L-19 reconnaissance plane).

6 days before (Oct. 20), an operation staged by 3 puppet battalions in an area 8 kilometres northeast of Hai Lang district capital had been beaten off (200 men put out of action, 7 tanks and armoured cars destroyed, 1 jet plane and 2 helicopters shot down).

On the night of Oct. 25 and on Oct. 26 P.L.A.F. heavy

(Continued page 7)

3 AMERICAN P.O.W.s FREED

ACCORDING to *Giai Phong* Press Agency, on October 31, 1967 on orders from the Central Committee of the South Viet Nam Front for Liberation, the Command of the South Viet Nam People's Liberation Armed Forces set free the 3 following American P.O.W.s:

1. Johnson Edward Robert, first sergeant, adviser to Battalion 1, Regiment 31, Puppet Division 21, army serial number : R.A. 3351085 6, a negro, captured on July 21, 1964 in Luc Phi battle, Go Quao, Rach Gia province,

2. Arpitzer Daniel, medical sergeant, first class, adviser, from Fairrion, West Virginia, who arrived in Viet Nam on July 11, 1963 and was captured in Tan Phu battle, Ca Mau, on October 29, 1963.

3. Jones Ilex Jackson, medical sergeant, from Tacoh, West Virginia, who served in Viet Nam in 1963 and 1955, and was captured in Binh Hung battle (Ca Mau).

Giai Phong Press Agency was also authorized to make on the same day a statement denouncing U.S. crimes in Viet Nam after pointing out that the U.S. acts of war have been condemned by the world opinion, and underlining the struggle of the progressive American people against the war in Viet Nam, the statement went on to say:

"To reciprocate the good will of the progressive American people who are struggling against the U.S. imperialist aggressive war in Viet Nam and to express solidarity with and support for the black Americans fighting for their fundamental national rights in the U.S. and in accordance with the humane and lenient policy of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation towards prisoners of war, the Command of the South Viet Nam People's Liberation Armed Forces decided to release these three American P.O.W.s because they had shown sincere repentence of their crimes against the South Vietnamese people and correctly observed prison discipline and regulation during their detention.

"In a humanitarian spirit and to facilitate the freed P.O.W.s' early return to their homes and country, the South Viet Nam N.F.L. is prepared to hand them over to their Embassy or any mass organization willing to help them safely back to their native places."

TO THE READER

We are aware that there is much room for improvement in the wording of our paper. We apologize for this shortcoming and highly appreciate all your suggestions as they will help us to serve you more efficiently in future.

BLITZ RAID ON BASE CAMP OF PUPPET ARMOURED REGIMENT 7 NEAR HUE

THE base camp of puppet Armoured Regiment 7 was located in the An Cuu plain, barely 2km from the heart of Hue city. It comprised 2 sectors: the C.P. area and the outpost area southeast of the city.

The C.P. area, 400 metres by 600 metres, lay at the foot of Tam Thai Hill between Highway 1 and Ngu Binh Hill (west of this strategic road). In this area, there were 150 barracks surrounded by blockhouses and fortifications. There were also one or two armoured sub-regiments, one motorized infantry company, one transport company, one repair and P.O.L. supply company and one signal company. In addition, there were many military storage depots.

The outpost area had 3 steel and concrete positions located on the 3 tops of Tam Thai Hill. A high wall, many rows of solid fortifications, barbed wire entanglements, deep trenches and thick mine-fields about 100 metres wide protected these positions. In addition, 4 tanks equipped with 76-mm guns served as mobile bunkers. A tank sub-regiment and a motorized infantry platoon guarded the Regiment C.P. round the clock. The enemy also set up a network of ultra-powerful search-lights inside and up above.

At night, the base camp of this puppet armoured regiment was brightly lit up within and without.

On the night of Oct. 2, 1967, a unit of the P.L.A.F. was already well prepared to destroy it. The attack order given, Detachment C. opened up simultaneously at the 3 enemy positions on the hilltops in the outpost area. Then the shock team led by Tho, like a dagger, thrust into the enemy's heart. After only 3 minutes' fighting, it completely overran all enemy positions on Tam Thai Hill. As for Tho, he shot ablaze an enemy tank single-handedly in the very first round, then, together with his comrades, set 2 others ablaze. The enemy's "eye" in the South-east had been pierced.

Meanwhile, the Liberation gunners pounded the Regiment Headquarters at the foot of the hill. Within minutes, the whole enemy base was turned into a sea of blazing flames. The enemy soldiers ran helter-skelter. Hundreds of them were cut down by shell explosions. A light signal was sent up, announcing the charge. All at once, satchel charges triggered a series of explosions. Barbed wire entanglements were blown up and mine-fields cleared. Shock detachments poured through the breach and pushed the attack home. Each column, like a sword, cut the enemy formations to pieces. At about the same time, another detachment of the P.L.A.F. from the top of Tam Thai Hill rushed down. Battered from all sides, the defenders found themselves in a fix when the Liberation fighters, dashed in with bayonets. A hand-to-hand fighting followed and the adverse troops were mown down group by group. Armoured cars were set on fire one by one. Nguyen Van Ke led his detachment in a deep thrust into the position. With 5 shots, Le Van Mai put out of action 4 resistance pockets and one M.113 armoured personnel carrier. The whole base camp of puppet Armoured Regiment 7 was razed to the ground.

In the centre of Hue city, the commanders of puppet Division 1 were about to send out troops to rescue this Regiment C.P. when the P.L.A.F. lobbed in a barrage of artillery fire. Hundreds of shells landed in the Division headquarters, the puppet police station, the radar station, and the signal camp in the city. The enemy command system was paralysed, and his toll was heavy.

The Liberation artillerymen also blasted many enemy blockhouses along the railway and Highway 1.

From the C.P. of the P.L.A.F. multi-coloured flares shot skywards, announcing the successes of various units. The attacking forces had completely wiped out the base camp of puppet Armoured Regiment 7, causing over 500 casualties among defenders and destroying 40 tanks and armoured cars.

While the Huong Giang victory on the night of May 28, 1967 which took 800 enemy casualties in Hue city put an end to the safety of of the U.S. troops and their puppets there, the An Cuu victory on the night of Oct. 2, 1967 portended the beginning of their irremediable disruption and doom.

The South Viet Nam Armed Forces ...

(Continued from page 8)

3. The enemy was unable either to defend or to break the P.L.A.F. grip on their strategic communication lines.

There was no longer security on Highway 9 since the 1966-1967 dry-season counter-offensive. Its outpost of Con Tien and Gio Linh and positions along it such as Doc Mieu, Dong Ha, Khe Sanh were continually attacked during the last rainy season and lost 5,000 men in a month (from April 21 to May 21, 1967). At the foot of the Hai Van Pass on Highway 1, 64 military vehicles were destroyed in an ambush (July 3). On Highway 19, 3 U.S. companies were put out of action, near Duc Co (July 17). On Highway 20 (Saigon-Ba Ria) 35 tanks and other armoured vehicles and 300 American and puppet troops were wiped out in an ambush (July 21). A train carrying arms and ammunition was blown up near Nha Trang city (July 20). Another military train was derailed near Tuy Hoa city (August 19).

Strategic Highway 4 joining Saigon to the provinces in the Mekong Delta was blocked in spite of numerous operations costing 5,350 casualties for the enemy. It was cut by a hundred sections, each having tens of metres long and a few metres deep breaches.

Unable to launch effective defensive operations and to defend their bases as they were, now could U.S.-puppet troops protect their strategic communication lines?

4. The "pacification" prong was broken.

In spite of the participation of 80 regular puppet battalions and of numerous U.S. and satellite units in "pacification" work, the enemy could make no progress. On the contrary, "strategic hamlets" fell by chunks.

Helped by the P.L.A.F., the people in the Highway 4 area rose up and destroyed 40 "strategic hamlets". Breaking into towns and cities, the P.L.A.F. wiped out many puppet thugs, thus breaking the enemy hold. In the heart of Saigon, 7 police stations were destroyed in one attack. According to the *Los Angeles Times* (September 28, 1967), in the five northern provinces of South Viet Nam, "pacification" teams had been withdrawn from their assigned areas to avoid annihilation.

During 5 months (summer-autumn of 1967) 10,000 "pacification workers" were put out of action. The "pacification" plan went from bad to worse.

5. Every U.S.-puppet defensive action met with failure.

In the two dry-season counter-offensives, the U.S.-puppet command failed in all its operations aimed at smashing the P.L.A.F. spine.

During the summer and autumn of 1967, the defence system on the pattern of that along Highway 9, or that of the puppet rear base at La Vang or Cu Ha, or that of the U.S. base at Phu Bai, Da Nang, Chu Lai... proved ineffective. The "flying boat," "air naval combat, "flotilla attack on river" tactics were foiled. Such shock troops as the *Oregon*-type forces only suffered bigger losses. U.S. strategic and tactical stalemate naturally impaired its fighting capability. The failure of over one million U.S., puppet and satellite troops was unquestionable.

To turn the tide in South Viet Nam, Washington "escalated" the war of destruction in North Viet Nam, savagely striking at the capital and the main harbour of the D.R.V.N.: 35 planes were grounded over Hanoi from October 24 to 28, 1967.

OVER two years of fighting against the U.S. expeditionary forces, particularly during last summer and autumn, the people and their armed forces have maintained and enhanced their initiative, promoted their relentless offensive, enriched their combat tactics. As a result, they have obtained big successes and driven the enemy into an unprecedentedly bad strategic position.

On the contrary, the American and puppet strategic disposition has constantly been upset. Dispersed to do "pacification" work or merged into U.S. mobile units, the puppet troops have proved to be more of a broken reed. As the main force of offensive, the American troops have been sent everywhere, split into bits and emasculated.

The big successes obtained by the South Vietnamese people and the P.L.A.F. in the summer and autumn of 1967 have once more brought out their capability to defeat the U.S. aggressors and their henchmen.

P.L.A.F. Big Success...

(Continued from page 6)

artillery pounded the U.S. base of Con Tien, destroying 4 blockhouses, setting afire 3 armoured vehicles and wiping out 4 106-mm mortars.

CHO LON

2 Puppet Companies and the Command of Puppet Rangers Battalion 34 Wiped Out.

AT 2 p.m. on Oct. 29, the P.L.A.F. attacked the position of La Giang (Duc Hoa district), 25 kilometres west of Saigon, *Giai Phong* Press Agency announced.

According to first reports, they wiped out 2 puppet companies and the command of puppet Ranger Battalion 34, and destroyed 4 armoured vehicles. On the night of Oct. 11 to 12, 17 days before, they had put out of action 1 puppet company and heavily depleted another in the same position.

Furthermore, the guerillas and local population overran 2 posts, wiping out the whole garrisons, blowing up a bridge on Road 6 from Loc Giang to Trang Bang, and slashing 2,000 metres of road.

On the night of Oct. 26 to 27, P.L.A.F. artillery pounded the U.S. radar centre at Phu Lam (Binh Tan district), destroying nearly all radar installations and billets and wiping out many G.I's.

THUA THIEN

350 Enemy Troops Put out of Action Including 250 Americans in Phong Dien District.

GIAI PHONG Press Agency said that from Oct. 26 to 29, the P.L.A.F. had intercepted 4 puppet battalions carrying out a "sweep" in a mountain village of Phong Dien district, put out of action 350 men (including 250 Americans), and shot down 2 helicopters coming to pick up corpses.

GIA DINH

23 Positions Attacked in 3 Nights

ACCORDING to *Giai Phong* Press Agency, on the nights of Oct. 22, 23 and 24, the P.L.A.F. attacked 23 enemy positions in Hoc Mon and Cu Chi districts, in Tan Thanh Dong, 10 kilometres west of Thu Dau Mot town, 1 puppet company of Regiment 7 (Division 5), was wiped out.

Cambodian National Day...

(Continued from page 3)

Front for Liberation as the sole genuine representative of the South Viet Nam people, and highly value and staunchly support its political programme.

Especially, this year, the Central Committee of the South Viet Nam N.F.L. has been resolved to set up a permanent mission in Phnom Penh, while the governments of the D.R.V.N. and of the Kingdom of Cambodia have decided to establish diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level. These are important steps in the development of relations between the two countries.

On the occasion of the National Day of Cambodia, the Vietnamese people are once again sincerely grateful to Head of State Norodom Sihanouk, the Royal government and brother people of Cambodia for their wholehearted support to the struggle of the Vietnamese people against the U.S., for national salvation.

Let Us Dash Forward...

(Continued from page 8)

market strikes, stand shoulder to shoulder with one another in the struggle for vital and democratic rights, push ahead the movement to punish cruel agents, break the enemy's grip, oppose all restrictions, paralyse the political and military authority of the enemy and enhance the people's revolutionary mettle in the cities."

In conclusion, the Presidium of the C.C of the South Viet Nam N.F.L. called on the South Vietnamese people of all nationalities and religions, overseas Vietnamese and those people whose children are serving in the enemy ranks to play their part in the anti-U.S. resistance for national salvation.

LET US DASH FORWARD IN A POWERFUL IMPETUS TO WIN GREAT VICTORIES IN THE WINTER - SPRING CAMPAIGN

ON October 22, 1967 the Presidium of the C.C. of the South Viet Nam N.F.L. addressed an appeal to the South Viet Nam armed forces and people.

Its first part reviewed the great and all-sided victories won by the South Viet Nam armed forces and people since the winter of 1965 and the spring of 1966, and the heavy setbacks, passivity and stalemate of the over one million strong U.S., puppet and satellite army.

Next, it made an appraisal of the situation and the following appeal:

"We nurture no illusion that the road to final victory is easy. The U.S. imperialists will devise further perfidious designs, bring in more troops, weapons and means of war, intensify the aggressive war in South Viet Nam and widen the war of destruction in North Viet Nam, causing new difficulties for us. We still have great ordeals ahead. But whatever the difficulties and hardships may be, our people, undaunted and animated by the "death rather than servitude" spirit, are resolved to fight until final victory. After many years of test of strength with the enemy, realities in the battlefield prove that with their unity and combativeness, resourcefulness and courage, our armed forces and people are fully capable of defeating the U.S. aggressors and their lackeys.

In the immediate future, to win ever greater victories in this winter-spring period let our entire army and people be well aware of the new situation, have no illusion about the professions of "peace" of the U.S. aggressors and their lackeys, and dash valiantly forward to win resounding victories in order to liberate the South, defend the North, eventually achieve the peaceful reunification of the country, and actively contribute to pushing forward the national liberation movement and safeguarding peace in Indo-China, South East Asia and the rest of the world.

Let all the armed forces, from the main force units and regional troops to the militia and guerillas, in their vigorous rush forward to victory bring into full play their revolutionary heroism, strike hard at the enemy everywhere; and wipe out and whittle down as many enemy units as possible. Let us dash forward to deal hammering blows at all kinds of U.S., puppet and satellite troops which are causing untold suffering and mourning to our compatriots, smash their "search-and-destroy" and "pacification" prongs, effectively protect and assist various sections of the people to rise up, punish cruel agents, break the enemy's grip, speed up the disintegration of the puppet army and administration and win their right to live.

Let our compatriots in the rural areas still under the enemy's grip courageously step up their struggle against pressganging, forced labour and all forms of oppression, looting and murder employed by the enemy, and rise up to punish cruel agents, destroy strategic wards and hamlets, disturb and disintegrate the enemy's rear, and liberate themselves.

Let our compatriots in the base and liberated areas enhance in their impetuous advance the strength of their unity, promote their right to self-management, hold firm their guns, turn the mountains, jungles and ricefields into dreadful battlefields for the U.S. aggressors, stand ever ready to beat off all enemy sweeps and at the same time boost production, enthusiastically supply manpower and material resources to the front, and serve as a steady prop and a reliable supporting force for our compatriots in areas temporarily controlled by the enemy.

Let our workers and labouring people, students, small traders, intellectuals, functions; businessmen, industrialists, patriotic-minded personalities, people from all walks of life in various cities strengthen in their daring march toward victory their unity to fight U.S. aggression for national salvation, join in teach-ins, send petitions, hold demonstrations, strikes, school boycotts and

(Continued page 7)

AFTER THE SUCCESSES IN THE WINTER OF 1966 AND SPRING OF 1967

THE SOUTH VIET NAM ARMED FORCES AND PEOPLE ACHIEVED GREAT SUCCESSES IN THE SUMMER AND AUTUMN OF 1967

AFTER the heavy defeats of the 1966-1967 dry-season counter-offensive, the American Command hastened to take a series of strategic measures to save the situation and regain the initiative during the summer-autumn of 1967: redeployment of strategic forces to cope with the repeated attacks of the People's Liberation Armed Forces (P.L.A.F.), concentration of forces to step up "pacification" in key areas, launching of small and middle-scale operations to help "pacification" or parry P.L.A.F. offensives, defence of military bases and cities, clearing of main strategic communication lines, destruction of liberated areas with bombs and toxic chemicals, gradual reorganization of puppet troops to strengthen "pacification" forces and at the same time further escalation of U.S. war of destruction in North Viet Nam.

Washington's ambitious plan has actually come to a flop.

UNPRECEDENTED PASSIVITY AND PREDICAMENT

DURING last summer and autumn, challenged everywhere by the P.L.A.F., the enemy deployed troops in all direction and received telling blows.

During the 1966-1967 dry-season counter-offensive, the American Command had massed forces against East Nam Bo. After the failure of Operations *Attleboro, Cedar Falls, Gadsden, Junction City*, it made a last attempt to recoup the losses with Operation *Manhattan* which finally went bankrupt. Its hope of loosening the P.L.A.F. grip on Saigon - Gia Dinh was shattered to the ground.

As the G.I.'s were getting bogged down in East Nam Bo, 75,000 U.S. Marines were badly mauled near the 17th parallel. Westmoreland sent to their rescue Light Brigade 196 from Tay Ninh, one brigade of Division 25 from the Western High Plateaux, Airborne Brigade 101, one brigade of Infantry Division 4, one brigade of Infantry Division 9, the independent Armoured Cavalry Regiment 11... He also despatched Paratroop Brigade 173 to Kontum to support two American brigades pinned down in the Western High Plateaux, Air Cavalry Division 1, main mobile force for the whole of South Viet Nam, to Quang Ngai where American units had been suffering defeat after defeat.

The U.S. C-i-C was thus forced to resort to makeshifts since, instead of the 200,000 troops he asked from the Pentagon, he was promised only 45,000 up to June 1968.

In spite of the important build-up in the 1st Army Corps Area, U.S. casualties kept growing. *Reuter* on September 17 gaves the following figures which were below the truth: two divisions of U.S. Marines lost, from January to September 1967, 31,770 men among them 20,724 killed or wounded.

U.S. BIG AND ALL-ROUND FAILURES

1. Its troop strength being inadequate, the American Command had to disperse its strategic mobile forces. As a result, all U.S. **operational activities during the summer and autumn of 1967 were of a passive and defensive character.**

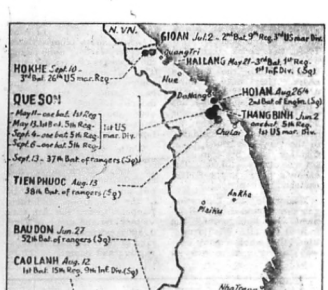
It was patent to everyone that the bigger and the longer U.S.-puppet operations were, the heavier their casualties grew and the situation of the raided areas were more favourable to our people and their armed forces. This was the case in the northern provinces as well as many other ones.

Four "sweeps" in the rectangle of Thanh Binh - Que Son - Tam Ky - Tien Phuoc and in other districts in Quang Nam, Quang Ngai and the Central South Viet Nam delta, staged from April 21 to June 22, 1967, cost the enemy 11,623 casualties. 5,350 troops were put out of action in July, August and September 1967 during operations on Highway 4 in the Mekong Delta; 2,000 were annihilated in 2 operations (July 25 to August 4, and September 13 to 16) conducted in Chau Thanh, Cai Be and Cai Lay districts also to clear Highway 4.

2. Enemy defensive network in the rear, cities, command posts and nerve centres were repeatedly and devastingly attacked.

The P.L.A.F. attacks on enemy bases including mixed bases, airstrips, harbours, in the summer-autumn of 1967 doubled in comparison with the 1966 winter-1967 spring. During May, June and July 1967, the P.L.A.F. mounted 70 raids on enemy bases. Cities and towns like Hue, Quang Ngai, Hoi An, Tam Ky, Da Lat, Tay Ninh, Tra Vinh, and such towns so far regarded as safe as Tuy Hoa, Nha Trang, Phan Rang and Phan Ri were hit. In Hue alone, 1,300 enemy troops were put out of action on May 28 and October 2, 1967. The American Bien Hoa air base had 1,000 men put out of action and 150 planes destroyed or damaged in one night (May 11). It was clear that the enemy defensive was weakened whereas the P.L.A.F. fighting capability was increasing.

(Continued page 7)



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